

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CASE NO: JFM-16-0469

MARTIN ROBERT HALL,

Defendant.

**JOINT STATUS REPORT AND CONSENT MOTION
TO EXCLUDE TIME UNDER SPEEDY TRIAL ACT**

The United States of America, by its undersigned counsel, hereby moves this Court for an Order concerning the Speedy Trial Act status in this case, specifically to exclude time for purposes of Speedy Trial Act computation, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(1), and to make a finding pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(1) and (7)(A) that time necessary for plea negotiations is a proceeding within the contemplation of the Speedy Trial Act, and that the ends of justice served by continuing the trial date beyond the 70-day period normally required under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(c)(1) outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial. In support of this motion, the government states as follows:

1. On September 20, 2016, a federal grand jury returned an Indictment in the above-captioned matter, charging the defendant with Transportation of Child Pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(1) and Posession of Child Pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B) & (b)(2).
2. On October 14, 2016, the defendant had his initial appearance and arraignment on the indictment.
3. On October 28, 2016, the parties had a conference call with the Court's chambers and 23, 2015, were directed to file a written status report by December 16, 2016.

4. The parties have signed a discovery agreement, and the discovery process has begun. Based on the nature of the charges and images that are the subject of this prosecution, counsel for the defense will need to schedule a date and time to review the evidence that was seized from the defendant's residence during a search warrant.

5. Counsel for both parties represent that they are working in good faith to review the discovery in this case, and are engaged in productive negotiations regarding a pretrial resolution of this matter.

6. Accordingly, the parties seek a tolling of the Speedy Trial clock by the Court for a period from the date of the defendant's initial appearance, on October 14, 2016, through the date of the next status report, December 16, 2016.

7. The general rule is that the Speedy Trial clock begins to run with the return of an indictment or the first appearance of the defendant in this district, whichever date is later. 18 U.S.C. § 3161(c)(1). Therefore, the applicable starting point for the Speedy Trial clock is December 22, 2015. Section 3161(h)(9) specifically excludes from the time requirements "any period of delay resulting from a continuance granted . . . at the request of the defendant or his counsel or at the request of the attorney or the Government, if the judge granted such continuance on the basis of his findings that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial." Additionally, "delays resulting from plea negotiations" are excludable as delays "resulting from other proceedings concerning the defendant" within the meaning of § 3161(h)(1). *United States v. Ford*, 288 Fed. App'x 54, 57-58 (4th Cir. 2008) (citing 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)); *United States v. Bowers*, 834 F.2d 607, 610 (6th Cir. 1987); and *United States v. Montoya*, 827 F.2d 143, 150 (7th Cir. 1987)). See also, *United States v. Leftenant*, 341 F.3d 338, 344-45 (4th Cir. 2003) (holding time spent on plea negotiations were

excludable as “other proceedings,” within the meaning of § 3161(h)(1)) (citing *Bowers* and *Montoya*, among other cases, in support).

8. The parties respectfully submit that the interests of the defendant and of the public in a trial within the 70 non-excludable days usually set by the Speedy Trial Act are outweighed by the ends of justice served by adequate and complete trial preparation and by a possible pretrial resolution of this matter.

9. Further, the government requests an order finding that the time from the initial appearance of the defendant on October 14, 2016, through the date that the next status report is due – during which the parties have conducted and will continue to conduct plea negotiations and review discovery – is automatically excluded as an “other proceeding[] concerning the defendant” within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(1), or, in the alternative, grant a continuance pursuant to § 3161(h)(7) and make a finding that the interests of justice are served by excluding that time under the Speedy Trial Act, which interests outweigh the defendant’s and the public’s interests in a speedy trial.

10. A proposed Order is attached for the Court’s consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Attorney

/s/

By: _____
Paul E. Budlow
Assistant United States Attorney

/s/

By: _____
Mark Johnson
Attorney for the Defendant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 31st day of October, 2016, that a copy of the foregoing JOINT STATUS REPORT AND CONSENT MOTION TO EXCLUDE TIME UNDER SPEEDY TRIAL ACT was electronically filed with notice to all counsel of record.

/s/

Paul E. Budlow
Assistant United States Attorney